20.   (Twice-Amended) [The] An isolated protein subunit [according to claim 19] of polymerase III holoenzyme, wherein the subunit has an amino acid sequence corresponding to amino acid residues 107-158 of SEQ. ID. No. 10.

54.   (Twice-Amended) An isolated protein δ subunit of polymerase III holoenzyme [from a eubacterial prokaryote], wherein the [subunit group is δ] protein subunit is encoded by a DNA molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 6 when hybridization is performed in 2 x SSC, 0.2% SDS at 42 °C.

59.   (Twice-Amended) An isolated DNA molecule encoding a protein δ subunit of polymerase III holoenzyme [from a eubacterial prokaryote], wherein the [subunit group is δ] DNA molecule comprises a nucleic acid sequence which hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 6 when hybridization is performed in 2 x SSC, 0.2% SDS at 42 °C.

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested.

The rejection of claims 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for lack of enablement is respectfully traversed in view of the amendments to the claims made on November 30, 1999, in which applicant deleted the language "with or without mutations, deletions, or additions" from the claims.

The rejection of claims 5-7, 12, 13, 59, 64, and 65 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for lack of written description is respectfully traversed in view of the above amendments. Support for the claimed hybridization conditions in claims 5 and 59 is found on page 28, lines 36-37 of the present application.

The rejection of claims 14-16, 54, and 57 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph for lack of written description is respectfully traversed in view of the above amendments. Support for the claimed hybridization conditions in claims 14 and 54 is found on page 28, lines 36-37 of the present application.